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Join

**THE AMERICAN
CIVIL LIBERTIES
UNION**

the nation's only
permanent nonpartisan organization devoted exclusively
to the defense of the Bill of Rights for everyone.

**Founded
in 1920**

*“... During the 43 years of
its existence, the American Civil
Liberties Union has played a
significant role in defending our
basic democratic freedoms.
Your voice has always been raised
clearly and sharply when our
liberties have been threatened.”*

John F. Kennedy

*“The American people have
given increased attention
to civil rights... the
members of the American
Civil Liberties Union and
the overwhelming majority
of my fellow citizens are
working together in this
field with steadfast vigor
and understanding.”*

Dwight D. Eisenhower

WHAT IS THE ACLU?

The purpose of the American Civil Liberties Union — and its only purpose — is the preservation and strengthening of the freedoms guaranteed to us under the Bill of Rights.

There are many government officials, special interest groups, and private citizens who think our constitutional guarantees of freedom of inquiry and expression, due process of law, and equality before the law should be denied to certain citizens whom they consider undeserving. They believe they have the right to decide who is or is not “deserving.”

ACLU believes, as our nation’s founding fathers believed, that no one should have the privilege of deciding who is deserving of the rights guaranteed to us under the Constitution. These rights belong to all—*without exception*.

WHAT WE DO

The Court

The everyday business of ACLU is helping people whose civil liberties have been violated.

Much of this work is in the courts. Each year, the ACLU enters into hundreds of court cases. We may supply counsel for the person whose civil liberties have been denied, or we may submit a “friend of the court” brief which argues the constitutional question at stake.

Many of the cases fought by the ACLU are of historic significance — such as the famed *Scopes v. State of Tennessee* “monkey trial.” In recent years, ACLU and its affiliates have won many notable victories before the U.S. Supreme Court protecting rights of free speech, the right of peaceful protest, the right to counsel, freedom of the press and decisions banning religion in



the public schools and the widespread evil of introducing illegally seized evidence in state courts. Constant watchdog activities by ACLU affiliates across the nation are necessary to prevent unfair court procedures.

The Community

Through contacts with public officials, ACLU is frequently able to secure the adoption of enlightened policies designed to protect and extend constitutional rights. For example, the ACLU of Greater Philadelphia some years ago secured the creation of the nation's first Police Review Board, an official agency to obtain redress for citizens aggrieved by unlawful police action.

When officials fail to take corrective action, ACLU can often be effective by arousing public interest. A noteworthy example is the report issued by the Illinois Division on "Secret Detention by the Chicago Police."

The Legislature

Many issues affecting civil liberties arise before the U.S. Congress and the various state legislatures.

ACLU has effectively supported anti-discrimination laws, legal assistance for the poor, the rights of Indian tribes and legislation to provide improved court procedures and reapportionment of state legislatures.

We have opposed loyalty oaths, magazine and film censorship, constitutional amendments designed to cripple the U.S. Supreme Court, the use of public funds for sectarian schools and curbs on academic freedom.

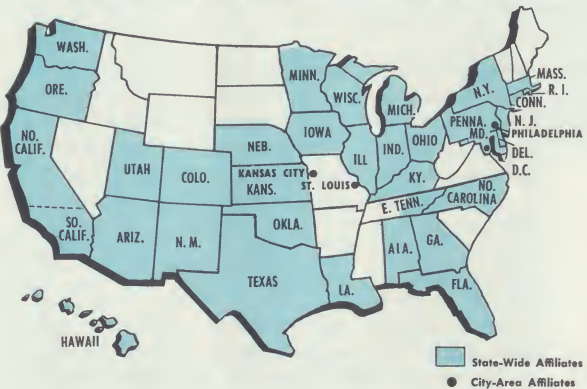
The Public Forum

Educational efforts on behalf of the Bill of Rights are carried out through newspaper publicity, radio and TV appearances, pamphlets, and the regular bulletins of the ACLU. Many affiliates maintain active Speakers' Bureaus scheduling frequent appearances before church, civic, service and educational groups.



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

The 38 State and City Affiliates of the ACLU



By joining the national ACLU, you will join the affiliate in your area and participate in the defense of civil liberties on the local scene. (Except in Northern California where separate membership is maintained. However, the national ACLU also welcomes support from members in Northern California.)

Membership includes the ACLU's authoritative Annual Report, *Civil Liberties* ten times a year, and your choice of ACLU pamphlets. Student members at \$3 receive *Civil Liberties* and the Annual Report. The ACLU needs and welcomes the support of all those — and only those — whose devotion to civil liberties is not qualified by adherence to Communist, Fascist, KKK, or other totalitarian doctrine.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- ☐ \$100 Participating Member ☐ \$50 Cooperating Member
☐ \$25 Sustaining Member ☐ \$10 Supporting Member
☐ \$6 Basic Membership

Please enroll me as a **NEW MEMBER** of the ACLU. Here is my \$..... membership contribution, 50¢ of which is for a one-year subscription to *Civil Liberties*.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME
 ADDRESS
 CITY STATE ZIP
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ACLU'S STRUCTURE: The American Civil Liberties Union is a national organization with headquarters in New York. It was founded in 1920 to combat violations of the Bill of Rights resulting from post war hysteria directed against political dissenters.

Among the founders were Roger Baldwin, Jane Addams, Clarence Darrow, John Dewey, Morris Ernst, Felix Frankfurter, Arthur Garfield Hays, Helen Keller, Rabbi Judah Magnes, Monsignor John Ryan, and Norman Thomas.

Today there are 38 regional affiliates with over 85,000 members. Affiliate chapters carry the work into the local communities.

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